SEPTEMBER *1960*

A BRANCH IN 90 DAYS!

CSM

Registered at the G.P.O. as a newspaper

"CUMORAH'S" SOUTHERN MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER, 1960

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COVER PHOTO:

Carleton Branch members after only 90 days of active proselyting, by Elder B. Packard and Elder V. Garcia.

The Editor's Page

"THE world has need of willing men, who wear the workers seal, come help the good work move along, put your shoulder to the wheel."

The above Latter-day Saint hymn has a message for the Priesthood of the Church that is timeless. The words of this song should stir the hearts of noble men to greater efforts, for what man bearing the Priesthood of God can long remain unmoved?

The Lord **has a great need for willing men,** now that the NEW ERA is under way. You are His labourers that He has sent "to prune his vineyard for the last time". On you, the Priesthood holders, rests the responsibility of leadership in the Kingdom of God. Since the whole Church is run under the direction of the Priesthood, every Priesthood holder is expected to be busy in the leadership of the Church.

Yet when the call for these; "willing men" is made where are they? Many have other things to do; polish the car, read the papers, go on trips etc. They hold the Priesthood of God, yet when they are needed to help in the building of the Kingdom they are not in the councils of the Church. They are doing the things that should be left for other days of the week, or not done at all. When you neglect a Priesthood meeting, you neglect a great responsibility. When you neglect your duty you let the Lord down; for He has trusted you with His Holy Priesthood, and you have failed to magnify it.

The men wear "The workers seal" are those who are unselfish in their devotion to the work that has been given them. They take part in Quorum activities, and are faithful in attendance at Priesthood meetings; so that when new programs are planned and the projects of the Church are worked out, they can be a living part of them. They are faithful servants, and as such they will receive blessings untold, for the "labourer is worthy of his hire".

The New Era calls for the best that is in each and everyone of us, it is the "wheel" we are expected to push. The Lord expects His Priesthood holders to be the leaders and "doers of the word". Have you answered the call to service in the kingdom of God? The New Era is going forward, are you "pushing" it along?

THE "NEW ERA" HAS NEED OF WILLING MEN!

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THE CHURCH NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

CHURCH NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Over 5,000 Latter-day Saints Boy Scouts joined thousands of other "scouts" in one of the largest Boy Scout Jamborees ever held, at Colorado Spring, Colorado, U.S.A. The flags of dozens of nations waved in the breeze, while under the warm Colorado sunshine the "scouts" engaged in camping, games and instruction.

The Church was represented by several of the General Authorities who took an active part in the programme. Elder Mark E. Petersen, of the Council of the Twelve spoke at the Sunday Service for the "Mormon" Scouts". Each one of the boys who participated in the Priesthood meetings, and who held the Aaronic Priesthood received a card from Elder Petersen as a momento of the event.

NEW GRAIN ELEVATOR

The Desert Mills in Kaysville added 14 brand new bins each 75 feet high, to their grain elevators. The grain elevators are operated by the General Welfare Committee, and are part of the welfare plan of the Church.

The huge bins were erected in 4 days by donated labour, from the members of the Church. The work was done around the clock in 8 hour shifts, by crews of 30 Priesthood holders at a time. In all, 350 men participated in the project.

The mills ajacent to the grainery produce flour, cereal and feed to help in supplying food stuffs for the welfare needs of the entire Church.

YOUTH CONFERENCE

The British Youth Conference held last month in England drew over 2,000 young men and women for three day meeting. Both the British Missions, the Manchester Stake, and 15 Districts took part in the convention.

This is the second one held, and it proved to be a great inspiration to all who were able to attend.

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COVER STORY

"... Behold, The Field Is White Already To Harvest."

HERE is the spirit of the NEW ERA at work in our mission-field, read and thrill to progress that is being made, with the missionaries and the Spirit of the Lord:

Until the NEW ERA started Carletonville was like dozens of other little towns that dot the "Rand", with one exception; the "Restored Gospel" had never been taught in its streets. It was to take advantage of such an opportunity that two "Mormon" Elders came to Carletonville and dedicated it for the preaching of the Gospel. When they stepped off the train Elder Garcia and Elder Packard had little more than their testimonies and the spirit of the NEW ERA in their hearts. But they set to work immediately, found a place to stay and started tracting. They were soon averaging 8 to 10 cottage meetings a day and they even managed to introduce themselves to the local Rotary Club.

It wasn't long until they had made such a favourable impression on the local residents, that a missionary from another Church took them to meet a family who had expressed an interest in the Gospel. This family soon gratefully accepted the message the elders brought and **they gave them introductions to several of their friends.** In the next few days, because of subsequent referrals the list of interested people jumped to 18. The time was now ripe, the elders felt, to organise a Sunday School; so they started looking for a place to hold it.

One of their new investigators offered the use of his front room; so arrangements were soon made to hold the first service there. In attendance at the service were 27 persons, and this was just a little a month after the elders had arrived in town. In the next few days 16 of the new investigators had asked for baptism, so they arranged a baptismal service.

Now less than three months have passed and there is a branch in Carletonville with a growing membership, an MIA program, and plans under way for a new chapel. (Continued on page 272)

A NEW ERA IS HERE!

ELDER DALE MELVILLE

Much has been said in the last few months about the "New Era" in the South African Mission. By now you realize that the "New Era" is here; it is an accomplished fact. No doubt you have noticed some of the results of this era: A new positive spirit among the missionaries; better attendance at church meetings; and most important, more people being baptized into the Church. But there is still a certain amount of skepticism about this new program. Some members are wondering why new converts are being baptized after being taught the gospel for such a short time? How long will these "short time" converts stay in the Church? Are they really converted? What responsibilities will this bring on me as a branch members? These are a few questions all members of the Church should understand, because members and missionaries alike are directly involved in this work. Not only have additional responsibilities come to the missionaries but they have also come to the branch members. To understand more fully the responsibilities of branch members, let's have a look at the "New Era".

The new method of presenting the gospel is a stepped up approach using a positive prayer and testimony lesson plan with the emphasis on a spritual rather than an intellectual conversion. The new system is much like the one used by Phillip in teaching the eunuch servant of the Queen of the Ethiopians. One day while the Queen's servant was sitting in his chariot reading the scriptures Phillip happened to be passing by and heard him pondering over the scriptures. Phillip, having the spirit of the "New Era," took advantage of the situation and went over and "opened his *mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Phillip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he*

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SISTER
A. E. OLIVIER
MOWBRAY
BRANCH

MY TESTIMONY

WHILE I was being prepared for baptism into the Church, I was constantly in touch with our Father in Heaven by prayer, in which I asked him to reveal to the the truthfulness of the Church. During one of my lessons, I had a very peculiar feeling as if an unknown fever had hold of me, was burning me up, I felt so strange and different, that I had to interrupt Elder Taylor's lesson and tell him about it. He looked very pleased and said I must keep that burning within my heart. Elder Tate told me that I was very near my God. And I too felt that way deep inside my heart.

But inspite of the convincing power of that feeling that came over me, I kept on praying for guidance and enlightenment. Suddenly my Heavenly Father answered my prayers. But in such a way as I had never even conceived of before. One night just before my baptism, I had a wonderful dream, but I was not able to fully understand it at the time. Only on the surface was I able to grasp part of its significance. But it decided me then and there that the teachings of the Church was true and that this was the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. And so my dear Brothers and Sisters I was baptised and became a "Mormon".

But a short time ago when I was asked to write a few words on my testimony for the "Cumorah Southern Messenger" I could not for the life of me write it down, no matter how I tried; so I just left it alone. I was very puzzled about though and it worried me a great deal.

But in the mean time I was busy reading the Book of Mormon, and was just half way through when I came to Alma 32:36-40. Here to my astonishment I read something very much like the dream I had, had! Then and only then did I fully understand the dream and what my Father in Heaven was trying to convey to me. When it was clear to me and I understood its significance, I was able to write this experience down.

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I IMAGINE that most everyone who reads this will know what I mean by this expression, but in case you don't it means this: You've found your master. And that is what has happened to me. About five months ago on a Saturday afternoon I was working on my car, and had need of some assistance so I started to go and ask my neighbour to help me. On the way out the gate I met two young men, who stopped me and asked for a few minutes of my time. These fellows were young enough to be my sons, but something about them made me stop what I was doing to listen to them. They introduced themselves as missionaries for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and even though my hands were covered with grease they shook hands with me.

I acknowledged their introduction; but told them as they could see I was very busy. How near I was at that moment to missing the greatest thing that could happen to mortal men, I know now but then how little I understood of its meaning in my life! The two missionaries were considerate and understanding, and said they would call again, but they said they would leave one of their books for me to read. Yes, you have probably guessed they left me a copy of "THE BOOK OF MORMON". Certainly when I took that book I didn't realize that I had in my hands the key to a whole new life.

At this time I was a Roman Catholic, although only a nominal one. I had stopped attending my Church after paying a visit to St. Peters in Rome. Certain things which I saw there made me doubt that it could be the true Church. But don't think for a moment that I was an atheist or unbeliever, for I still know that my Redeemer lives, but at that time I didn't know how to follow him through the teaching of a Church.

I've Found Moses

I took the Book of Mormon and put it on my bedside table, intending to read it when I found the time. The following day; was bleak and cold so I decided to spend it in bed. After reading the Cape Argus I looked around to find something else to read and picked up the Book of Mormon. I thought I would give it a quick glance through out of curiosity. Inside the cover was a few references to interesting passages which I started to look up. Right then "I found my Moses".

For years I had been searching for something and now I had it in my hands! The few references they gave me in the front of the book only served to whet my appetite, and before long I was earnestly reading the entire record. I read all that afternoon and far into the night, I couldn't put it down. The more I read, the more I wanted to read. As I read, I knew it was true. Don't ask me how I was able to tell at this early stage, but I knew with all my heart it was.

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IT'S HERE!

EVERYONE is talking about it! The General Authorities have spoken of it enthusiastically for several months. Other missions describe it in glowing terms. Our own Mission President speaks confidently of all it will do for us. The missionaries sense its great potential, and new members and converts feel the effect of it in their lives. In fact just about everyone has been infected to some degree. What is it? Its a period of time when renewed efforts are being made to proselyte the Gospel of Jesus Christ and when the Lord is pouring his spirit out upon the earth as never before. It is: "THE NEW ERA"! Its effect has been miraculous, and because it has, the growth of the Church in the first few months of this year is without precedent. From all over the world come reports of increased baptisms and expanding building programs. The work of the Lord has taken on an air of urgency and the Saints everywhere have responded to the call of the First Presidency to incorporate new methods and put forth additional efforts in order to share the message of the restoration of the gospel.

To those living and labouring in South Africa this should have a special meaning. It is not pleasant to acknowledge, but for many years this mission has been inferior to many others in reference to convert baptisms and general church expansion. Many and various reasons have been brought forth as possible explanations for this phenomenon, but recent findings indicate that none of these so called obstacles are at all valid. The Gospel message, if effectively presented, is going to be accepted as quickly here as anywhere else in the world. The "New Era" should mean to each person, now a member of the Church, an opportunity to pull the South African Mission out of the doldrums, where we have been labouring, into the light. And with everybody's co-operation we can do it!

Dr James E. Talmage, late member of the council of the twelve, has given us an experience he had as a student. He had a fine oil burning lamp for study, of which he was very proud. It had served him long and well. One evening at dusk a man with a satchel approached him, and started chatting with him. It was quite dark when the caller remarked: "You are a student and doubtless have much work to do at night . . . I have a new and superior kind of lamp I want to show you." Dr. Talmage replied with confidence that he already had a lamp that had served him faithfully and well, and didn't require anything better.

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Brother John Scheltema

WHO'S ON THE LORD'S SIDE?

I'M grateful for the opportunity I have to give a few thoughts on the importance of the memberships responsibility in the NEW ERA of the South African Mission. This subject brings to my mind a scripture which I feel can't be stressed enough:

"For thus saith the Lord, I will cut my work short in rightiousness". (Doctrine and Covents Section 52:11)

We are living at this time now. The Lord is cutting his work short in rightiousness through the NEW ERA plan now in operation. We have no need to turn to the scriptures to show that the coming of the Son of Man is near. The Holy Ghost bears record to that in every heart even now. And so with the NEW ERA we must prepare for this event. Let me give you an example:

When Moses came down from the mount he found the people commiting great sins before the golden calf. By the power of the spirit he uttered these words **"Who is on the Lord's side—who? Let him come up hither."** This question can still be asked today. Who is on the Lord's side? With this question on our minds we may ask ourselves this: Lord what will thou have me do? The answer is simply this: Let every man do his duty and be willing to serve diligently in the Kingdom of God.

Let us relate the incident of Moses a little closer to ourselves and see if we could honestly ask the Lord to show us the way, that we might walk in it. This should be the desire of every Latter-day Saint whether you are a missionary or member. There is never a time in our lives that we can say that we have done enough. Since all Church members like to feel they are on the Lord's side; they should be willing to prove it by taking an active part in the NEW ERA.

We have a three fold responsibility in the NEW ERA to our God, ourselves and our fellow men, which we are in debt to fulfill. It is our first duty to purify ourselves and our lives. When we ourselves are clean then we can have the Holy Ghost to help us. Then we can fulfill our next obligation to our fellow men by helping our friends and neighbours to learn about the gospel. We can do this by our lives and examples. And finally when we have accomplished these aims we should help to integrate into the branches all the lovely members the NEW ERA is producing.

(Continued on next page)

We must examine our lives every day and improve upon our talents. Then ask yourself this question. Am I able to say with all my heart that I have done everything I am able to do; to implant a testimony in the hearts of my friends? Do I by my every action show the truthfulness of the Gospel; and tell others about my testimony of Jesus Christ? We have these feelings in our hearts and we should desire to give these same things to others; so that they may have a testimony of them as well. The friends and neighbours that you have are just as precious in the sight of Our Father in Heaven as youself! And once you catch the grandeur of that simple statement you will have the spirit of missionary labour—brotherly love and kindness.

To bring souls into the Kingdom of God is a glorious undertaking and everyone should be doing their part. The missionaries cannot carry the whole burden themselves, we must assist and help them as members of the branch. Many of the branch members are going to be called on part time missions and they will have the opportunity to teach their fellow men. You should be willing to get them introduction to your friends and relatives and feferrals to those you know.

Since everyone can't do that then you should join one of the auxilaries so that in Sunday School and M.I.A. and other meetings you can teach the new members how to live the gospel. Buy extra copies of the Book of Mormon and distribute them to those you you know. It is our greatest silent missionary. You can invite your friends and relatives to our meeting and sacred services. Let them feel the spirit of the gospel by mingling with the Saints. Your testimony is your shield, your priceless possession. Share it with other and let them feel its power.

But what of the new members? What are you doing to make them feel at home? Do you go up to them after services and introduce yourselves? Do you invite them into your homes? Are you trying with all your heart to make every new member that comes into the Church feel warm and accepted? If you are not then you are falling down in one of the most important parts of the NEW ERA. Get behind these new brethern and help them along, in the gospel.

We have received so many blessings from the Gospel that could not even be numbered. God has given us His Son, Jesus Christ for the atonement of our sins, he has given us the principles of faith, repentance, Gift of the Holy Ghost, baptism, and new scripture. All these come with the promise that if you obey them you will be blessed with knowledge and progression, spiritually, mentally, and physically, that you may over come the powers of satan, which would have led you to destruction and misery. And help you gain the greatest of all gifts, Life Eternal.

With so many blessings we should be more grateful than ever before. And all God requires in return is this: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, might, mind and strength, and that thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Do you think that you can please God in any better way than by keeping all His commandments? If we truly love our God and our neighbour we will do everything in our power to help the NEW ERA grow in South Africa. Help your fellow men, so that they can: "seek . . . first the Kingdom of God". Who's on the Lord's side? Let those who are let them take part in the NEW ERA!

John Scheltema

I'VE FOUND MY MOSES

I was very well aquainted with the Holy Bible and as I read the Book of Mormon my understanding of the Bible increased. A realization that these came over me to such a degree that I knew these two books could not be seperated. Each comfirmed the others teachings in such a way as to bring joy to my heart and knowledge I had not possessed before: I had indeed "met my Moses!"

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"Teach us to number our days
That we may apply our hearts
unto wisdom,
That we may be glad
And rejoice all our lives."
—Psalms 90:12, 14.

"TIME is the most valuable thing a man can spend!" states Theophrastus, the Greek philosopher.

In today's materialistic world the proverb "Time is money" is well known, but this is a serious understatement because, as Arnold Bennet expressed it: "Time is the inexplicable **raw material of everything!** Without time, nothing is possible, **nothing** can be accomplished.

"The supply of time is truly a daily miracle. You wake up in the morning and lo! Your purse is magically filled with 24 hours of the unmanufactured tissue of your life. It is yours! The most precious of possessions, showered upon you in a manner as singular as the commodity itself. For remark! No one can take it away from you. You have to live on this 24 hours of daily time. Out of it you have to spend health, pleasure, money content, respect and the evolution of your immortal soul."

TIME . . .

Many people allege that they "have no time," but is this not so, in many cases, because their precious hours are being wasted in unwise or idle fashion? There are the bored ones who indulge in worthless "time-killing" pursuits and fill their lives so full of secondary or "substitute activities" of questionable nature that there remains no time in which to perform the best work of which they are capable. Others can with benefit take heed of the admonition not to "sleep longer than is needful!" Leonardo da Vinci once said: "Time stays long enough for those who use it."

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Your - - - - - Priesthood Page

FEED MY SHEEP

I ONCE was asked what I thought about trying to Branch Teach people who are not interested in hearing the message, and who many times would not even answer the door. At the time, I was of the opinion it was wasted effort, then I heard the following story and it changed my thinking. Let's see if this little story might give you, our readers a different insight into this problem, as it did me.

A Stake President was once bearing his testimony and he told the congregation it was because of an old man that he was there at this conference; presiding over it. Since most of the audience looked startled he went on and explained how it had occurred. The Stake President said that many years before he had been inactive and had wanted nothing to do with the Church. The only contact he had was through the Branch Teachers who called regulary and left a message. One of his Branch Teachers was a very old man, in his seventies. And no matter rain or shine he was always there on his appointed night with his message. Even when his younger companion was ill, he would walk many miles by himself to make his call.

The Stake President said be began to look forward to his visits after a while and didn't feel so resentful toward the Church, but he still didn't feel inclined toward the Church. For many years this state of affairs continued and the old man had several companions come and go, but he still persisted in his calling.

But one night the oldman was late and the Stake President went out to watch for him. Just as he stepped on to his porch he saw a car strike the old man down as he was crossing the street and roar away, leaving him lying in the street. The Stake President said he rushed to the old mans side only to find him breathing very feebly. As he lifted the elderly man's head from the pavement, the old man opened his eyes and recognised him, and he tried to smile. "Thought I wouldn't get to see you tonight." He whispered. "But I've got the message folded here in my pocket, you'll have to read it this time."

"Its been many years since I saw that faithful old Branch Teacher." The Stake President went on, "But I owe him a dept I can never repay. Because of the goodness of that man and his interest in me, I became active in the Church and have been ever since."

Well I'm not going to say that this is going to be the end result of your Branch Teaching; but you can never tell when someone you teach will be touched in his heart and become stronger in the Gospel. The worth of souls is great, and great is the joy that is felt when one of the "lost ones" returns to the fold. Let's all look at our Branch Teaching as a labour of love, for we are truly "feeding the Masters sheep".

FTT.

THE NEW ERA IN THE MISSION SUNDAY SCHOOLS

IN this day of progress and advancement, few would make such rash claims that pioneering ended with our forefathers. Science is constantly making new discoveries and inventions to make our living more modern. It's wonderful to live in such an age!

The Latter Day Saint Church isn't backward or at a standstill either. Nor do we claim to have reached our ultimate goals. Unlike the song that says, "They've gone about as far as they can go," we're just embarking on a New Era that is giving us wonderful, positive results. And this is only the beginning. We're looking forward to greater success.

The Sunday School has a very special place in the New Era. It is the responsibility of the Sunday School to teach new members and investigators the doctrines that the missionary just doesn't have time to teach.

In time past, the new members had a good knowledge of the principles of the Gospel upon baptism, because the missionary had spent much time in teaching. There are no advanced lessons in the new, speeded-up plan so the auxilaries must supply the additional teaching. Upon on entry into the Chuch, a new member finds as he opens the gate that much more lies ahead than first meets the eye. A new member has scant knowledge compared to the vastness of the Gospel. The Sunday School plays the most important part in teaching new members.

Each branch should have an investigator's class where those who are learning about the Gospel can feel on equal terms with each other. Here they can participate and learn together. New members should be encouraged to express themselves by giving short talks and bearing their testimonies. It can and should be one of the most blessed opportunities for growth and development possible. If the members are afforded such an opportunity of this kind here, then they will be able to take their places among the rest of the Saints much more easily and smoothly.

The new member has the responsibility to grasp the teachings as quickly as possible and then he should integrate himself into the advanced classes with the other members. This provides more space for new investigators.

Every Sunday School in the mission should radiate enthusiasm and love for the Gospel. Since this is the Gospel of love, every newcomer to meetings should be made to feel that he is accepted and wanted. If a missionary creates within an investigator, the desire to attend our services, this investigator is certainly a candidate for membership.

Sunday is a very special day! It's a special day because it is the day the Lord has set aside to worship Him. If we worship with the proper attitude, no one could help but feel the Spirit of God in our midst. Resolve to do your part in this New Era. Remember no matter how small the deed, you do, its precious in the eyes of our heavenly Father. Great things come from small deeds.

SISTER BONNIE JEAN WOODALI

THE RELIEF SOCIETY

THROUGH the South African Mission everyone is talking about the "New Era". Not only is it being talked about, but already the effects of it are being felt. The missionaries seem changed. They have a new glow in their eyes, a new enthusiasm in their speech. They shake hands with a firmer grip, and in general express and manifest a greater love for their work. The members, too, seem friendlier, more active; our Church services are, in many instances, full to capacity. In some Branches extra benches have to be brought in to accommodate the many new investigators and members who are coming out to Church.

Yes, Mormonism is a growing concern; it's wonderful to belong to such a Church, but now that the "New Era" is really under way, are we going to sit back and just watch these things take place? I am sure if this is our attitude, there won't be such wonderful things taking place, because the "New Era" is a two-fold programme—the missionaries bring their investigators into the Church, but it is up to us to see that they become members—not only member of record, but active members. How can we do this?

These new members have a testimony of the Gospel when they are baptised into the Church; however, even though they have firm testimonies, it is hard to remain active if they do not feel that they belong. You might say "But that's impossible, how could they help but feel they belong. Everyone is so friendly in our Church". Well that's true, we are known for our friendliness, but friendliness is not enough. New members need more than just someone to say hello to them and shake their hand when they come to Church. They need someone to become their best friends, to become close to them, to love them. When they joined the Church, no doubt they left most of their old friends. They need someone to take their place, then they will come to Church, not only because they have a testimony that the Gospel is true, but because they enjoy coming; then their activity becomes stimulating and challenging them.

The Relief Society can do more than the other auxiliaries to help integrate these new investigators and members into the Branch. Activity in the Relief Society depends on individuals working very closely together. Small groups very often work together as committees on various projects. Ideas are exchanged and suggestions often given for building better homes. Each lady has an opportunity to express and exercise her individuality. What a wonderful way to ge to know, love, and help each other. After all the whole purpose of Relief Society, as the name implies, is to give relief to others, both physically and spiritually. When this fails to be the purpose, then there fails to be a purpose for Relief Society.

Sisters in the Relief Society, let us make sure we keep our eyes fixed upon our goals; let's go forth with an eye single in purpose. There is no more worthy work than changing and influencing the lives of others for good.

SISTER GWEN MECHAM

"BY THEIR FRUITS"

FOR close on to ninety years the M.I.A. has worked hard on the over-all aims of testimony building. We have endeavoured to strengthen and inspire leaders to, in turn, strengthen and inspire the youth of the Church. I we cast our minds back to the memorable testimony Meeting of the recent Leadership Convention, then we can rejoice in a fair measure of success, for testimonies HAVE been gained and testimonies HAVE been strengthened.

But the value of testimonies lies in their fruits. Therefore, if we have a firm faith in the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ, we should be able to live by its basic principles. If we have this testimony we will love the Lord with all our might—and thus will want to serve Him and obey His commandments. We will love our neighbour as ourselves. And in loving ourselves, we will want to do our best just as we want everyone we love, to measure up to his best possibilities. On this assumption, loving others as ourselves has a wealth of meaning. If we love others and are working for their success, how can we do less than rejoice in than success? If we desire and work for their happiness and comfort, how can we fail to safeguard their happiness and comfort or protect their bodies and spirits from accidents and injury?

It seems to us that testimonies, whether of leaders or youth themselves should result in some very essential and everyday virtues. They should result in a new respect for the Ten Commandments, in a more enlightened reguard for the Sermon on the Mount. They should result in more complete honesty, truthfulness, less gossip and loose talking. A testimony should encourage safe driving, safe living, closer family ties and stronger friendships. It should result in better manners, greater courtesy, more respect for one's word and one's promises, in better appreciation of our blessings and opportunities. It should result in the safeguarding of good names, in more encouragement of higher levels of conduct—better sportsmanship.

This last seems an especially good opportunity to evaluate testimony, because it operates in an area of strain. Life is competitive. Business is competitive. Social and professional status, in a sense are conpetitive. We all live and play to win. Out of this competition come high standards of excellence, greater interest and enthusiasm, harder work and determination, but competition also presents problems. And lest it become a savage and ungodly occupation the principle of good sportsmanship (built on love of our neighbour) must apply. Whether we are concerned with the International Olympics, the Inter-Provincial Basketball Tournament, a Branch three-act play, or anything else, we firmly salute the man or woman, boy or girl who, have given his best loses, and thereupon heartily congratulate the winner—and means it! He has humbly and in a certain sense happily, conceded that another may be better than he—at least that for the moment he has performed better. He has humbly acknowledged that judges and referees are not prejudiced and ignorant, but honest and hard working (even if some times mistaken)!

None of us has to work at enjoyment of winning, but many of us have to work at enjoyment of the fine performance of others when they triumph over us. Such enjoyment is, or should be borne of testimony and carries its own reward of growth and self respect. He who wins the sportsmanship award—whether an actual trophy or the real admiration of his associates, deserves it to the full. All honours and glory to him here and hereafter, because good sportsmanship is an essential virtue that puts games and sports and many other things where they belong in the pattern of life.

"BY THEIR FRUITS YE SHALL KNOW THEM." Yes, the value of YOUR testimony lies in YOUR "fruits."

"ITS HERE!" — Continued

This conversation resulted in a comparison of the two lamps and as the older one was lit the lamp seller was very liberal in his praise. It was, he stated, the finest lamp of its kind—in fact the best he had seen. Upon lighting his new lamp however, it was easy to see that it was much the brighter and far more desirable. In one moment of convincing demonstration the inadequacy of the older lamp became evident.

What can we learn from this little story? Simply this—we haven't known the dim obscurity in which we have been labouring until the last two month's convincing demonstration. By applying a new and positive attitude in our work we have seen results that before were unheard of in this mission. However, if we are to draw an accurate comparison between the story of the lamps and our own situation we should say that the old era was a wonderful one—the finest of its type. It produced some marvelous members of the Church—strong, hard working devoted converts. It functioned well, but it is evident, even in these early stages, that the old will pass and grow dim in the light of the new.

The word "new" is a marvelous word. It has several connotations too. To some it means renovation, work and effort—something to be dreaded. New, to these people, connotes the same thing as does the light that burns the eyes of a man who suddenly receives his sight after many years of being blind. For a time both will find the adjustment difficult. To others, however, new connotes freshness and exhilaration—an awakening! To them, new is something everything becomes with the rising of the sun. These are the people who will give our "New Era" its initial push.

So Someone has truthfully said that you cannot push something that is going faster than yourself. Let's be one of those who catch the enthusiasm to help establish the "New Era" in South Africa.

Elder Richard Peterson

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MY TESTIMONY — Continued

Briefly my dream was like this: God seemed to speak to me, and He said to me, I will put this on your tongue and in your ear, just as Moses received the 10 commandments on Mount Sinai, so that you will remember this dream all the days of your life. There were two farmers who bought a farm, and on this farm there was a tree. The two farmers realized that this could indeed become a beautiful tree; if transplanted into a better place. For it was now standing in a dark corner where the soil was barren, and where it got no sun. So they set about transplanting this beautiful tree in nourishing soil and where the sun would shine on it all day long. Then God spoke again and said: You are this tree, and the two farmers are your teachers.They will tend you and nourish you till you start growing, and will not leave you till you burst into full bloom. And all those that pass by shall see and admire the beautiful blossoms.

This has happened to me my dear Brothers and Sisters, and I am gratefull for the blessings I have received since joining this Church. And this is my testimony, that I have written in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumbering upon the bed; Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instructions.—Job. 33:14-16

answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down into the water, both Phillip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. (Acts 8:35-38.)

This is a real "New Era" type conversion. Phillip didn't teach the servant all about the gospel. That wasn't necessary. He simply helped him gain a testimony that Jesus is the Christ and that repentance and baptism by the Priesthood are essential requirements for salvation. Then he was baptized. It was a short and simple, spiritual conversion. This is what the missionaries are doing today in the "New Era"; converting people with the emphasis on spiritual methods of bearing testimony and having the investigators pray about the message rather than the intellectual way of proving the gospel true by using a convincing array of logic and reason and an overwhelming number of scriptures. The only way anyone can know spiritual truths is through the Spirit of God as Paul taught:

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." (1 Cor. 2:11.)

Today it seems almost anyone can prove almost anything, ostensibly at least, by going to the scriptures. Every Church or sect interprets the scriptures to support their own particular beliefs with nothing but mass confusion resulting.

When the Elders first enter into a home they don't enter in and debate about the scriptures. They go into a home and explain and bear fervent testimony to four points: (1) That Jesus Christ is the actual and literal Son of God, (2) Joseph Smith is a prophet of God, (3) the gospel of Jesus has been restored and the heavens are opened, and (4) Our Father in Heaven will answer prayers about his truths. This approach is designed to appeal to the spirits of the lost sheep of the House of Israel. The honest in heart will be touched by these testimonies and recognize and respond to our message. The Holy Ghost will testify the truth to them. People can refute and argue about the interpretation of particular scriptures, but who can refute the fervent testimony of a young missionary that knows with his whole being that Jesus is the Christ and that Joseph Smith is an actual Prophet of God and that the gospel of Jesus Christ has been restored in this dispensation?

After entering a home, testifying to them, and arranging an appointment to call back and meet the whole family, the Elders call back as often as possible, and take the family through a series of seven lessons outlining the main principles of the gospel and emphasizing two words: repentance and priesthood. Our message is that simple. Everything that does not drive directly towards convert baptisms has been eliminated.

The people that are coming into the Church are therefore not great gospel scholars. They don't know all the doctrines of the Church but the important thing they do know, that outweighs all else, is that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the true Church of Jesus Christ here upon the earth and that they have repented of their sins and have been baptized for the remission of sins by someone holding the actual Priesthood of God. This is the type of person that is coming into the Church during the "New Era".

What then is the responsibility of the members with regards to these new members? When an investigator is baptized he is no longer a missionary responsibility. The missionaries fulfil their assignment by bringing people into the Church. Now they are no longer investigators but members and as such fall under branch jurisdiction. The branch's responsibility then is to keep the new members in the Church and give them every assistance possible in adjusting to the "Mormon" way of life. One

(Continued on next page)

vital need of new members is a need for friends. **Not just people to come and shake hands with them, but friends to take the place of the associates they lost by joining the unpopular "Mormon" Church.** They also need friends to fill the void that is left when the missionaries stop meeting with them. They need friends to call around and meet them socially in their homes and to invite them to church socials, etc.

In the British Mission they have an integration program titled: "Integration or Disintegration." This title is a real truism. If the new member are not integrated and made to feel welcome in the branch, they will surely disintegrate and fall away from the Church. This program outlines three steps for successful integration of new members into the branches:

1. **Every member makes each new member feel welcome.**
2. **A personal welcome is extended to each convert by the branch president, the heads of all auxiliaries and priesthood leaders with a special invitation out to meetings.**
3. **A special appointment is made of couples who are advisors to act as a personal integration committee and who are assigned to specific converts to work with them until they are fully fellow-shipped into the Church.**

This is a program all members in all branches in the mission would do well to follow. This is one important way all members can take an active part and help in the "New Era." Keeping new members in the Church is just as important in the sight of the Lord as bringing them into the Church in the first place. "Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of God."

Another way members can be a big help in the missionary service is through the "Sharing the Gospel" (referral) program. Referrals are invaluable. "A referral is a pearl." How much easier it is to enter into a home and teach the gospel to someone who already knows something about the Church and has seen "Mormonism" in action. We have been told to let our light so shine that men would see our good works and glorify our Father in Heaven. Here, by "Sharing the Gospel," we can put your good example to a practical use. The example you have been setting can be a great asset in bringing new members into the Church when you fill out a referral blank and give it to the missionaries.

Most members are wondering who they should refer to the missionaries. Here is a list enumerating the type of people for which we are looking:

1. **People who have asked questions about the Church.**
2. **Those who have expressed respect for the Church or one of its programs.**
3. **Someone who is reading, or has read Church literature.**
4. **Individuals or families who are in the process of choosing a Church—particularly people who have recently moved into the area or newly married couples.**
5. **People who have visited, particularly recently, a meeting either of the branch or an auxiliary, or who have recently visited Salt Lake City or some other Temple site.**
6. **Someone who simply lives a "Mormon" life, by living the word of Wisdom, etc.**

If you know of anyone filling any of these requirements, here is the way you can help. Just fill out a referral blank. Bringing members into the Church is a joint effort for missionaries and members alike. President David O. McKay said recently: **"Every member of the Church should bring one or more converts into the Church each year."** By taking part in the "Share the Gospel" program you are actively following President McKay's advice. This is the way to truly manifest your love for your fellow-men. Bringing them to a knowledge of the gospel will bring great happiness and joy into their lives, not only for this life but also in the life to come.

"And if it so be that you should

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labour all your days in crying repentance unto this people, and bring, save it be one soul unto me, how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father!

"And now, if you joy will be great with one soul that you have brought unto me into the kingdom of my Father, how great will be your joy if you should bring many souls unto me!" (D.&C. 18:15-16.)

What a blessing it is to live in this dispensation when the gospel is here in its fullness and when the "field is white already to harvest." Our responsibility in this dispensation is aptly summed up by an Apostle, the late John A. Widsoe:

"Those who receive the message of the gospel are obligated not only by divine command to warn every man his neighbour, but also by that ageless agreement made before this world was organized, that those who were privileged to seek and find the gospel during their earthly career would do all in their power to bring it to the attention of others."

Yes, the "New Era" is here! And at the moment the missionaries and members of South Africa are laying the foundation of the greatest proselyting program ever launched in South Africa. All around us the NEW ERA has sprung to life! The Lord has poured out his spirit on the people of this land without stint, and the members of this Church must plunge into the work of the NEW ERA with all their hearts.

This is a labour of love for our fellow men, and it is a privilege to be even a small part of it. Never has a time been so ripe for the spreading of the Gospel.

Could we be engaged in any greater calling? Could we be in any nobler service than the Masters? What greater message is there for the nations of the earth than the one we bear? NONE! Can we dare to hang back or be slothful in the spreading of the Gospel? Not if we are going to stand blameless at the last day! My brothers and sisters let us thrust in our cycles with our might, and work while the day lasts, for the night

Elder Dale Melville

soon comes when no man can labour. We are pruning the Masters vineyard for the last time, and warning the nations of the earth with the NEW ERA! Are you doing your part?

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Now behold, a marvelous work is about to come forth among the children of men.

Therefore, O ye that embark in the service of God, see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day.

Therefore, if ye have desires to serve God ye are called to the work;

For behold the field is white already to harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth in his sickle with his might, the same layeth up in store that he parisheth not, but bringeth salvation to his soul;

And faith, hope, charity and love, with an eye single to the glory of God, qualify him for the work.

Remember faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, godliness, charity, humility, diligence.

Ask, and ye shall receive; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Amen.

(D. & C. Section 4:1)

"TIME — Continued

In order to establish whether you have sufficient time for undertaking worthwhile projects, put to yourself the following questions and TAKE TIME to consider and answer them carefully to yourself:

1. To what am I giving first claim on my time?
2. Am I putting first things first?
3. Could I curtail the time I spend foolishly and invest it more wisely? Below you will find the answers to this last question.
4. To what ends can I profitably devote the time at my disposal?

Take time to LIVE; that is what time is for . . . to live and have joy. Do not put off living TODAY, because this is the only time we have. The dead yesterdays can never be recalled to reality or be relived, and the unborn tomorrows lie veiled in the impenetrable mist of uncertainty. "Today is yesterday's tomorrow. Do not sulk—If only I had done this! Neither speculate—When I grow up . . . when I get a job . . . when I retire I will do this or that, because it is not impossible that TIME might find you reviewing a bleak and uneventful past and nursing a suspicion that in some way you have been cheated! Therefore take as your motto: "MY PART IS TO IMPROVE THE PRESENT MOMENT."

Take time to work—it is the price of success. A task, however small, well done, brings infinitely more joy and benefit than a lifetime of sensual so-called recreation.

"The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night."

Take time to THINK—it is the source of **power** and the factor that elevates the human being above the animal. To stimulate thinking, take time to study and to gain knowledge.

Take time to PRAY . . . it is association with the greatest Power in the Universe . . . a personal and intimate conversation with the living God, our Heavenly Father. It is the **supreme gift**, an **enriching experience** which tunes us in and brings our desires and attitudes in harmony with the constructive forces and glorious intentions of the great Architect of the Universe.

Yes, take time to pray, because it frees our souls from enmities and grudges, and thus brings us closer to the supreme goal of inner peace and happiness. As we take time to pray, it stops being an appeal for personal favours or a request to be pulled out of troubles. It becomes a **conditioning in advance** to courageously meet all and conquer all.

Take time to STEP ASIDE and **contemplate**, to have your moments of silence and solitude and consider: Wherein have I erred? How can I learn from my past mistakes and how can I improve on them? What are my goals in life? What am I doing and what more can I do to attain these goals? Yes, take time to listen-in to quiet.

A successful lawyer, who was also an American Indian by birth, returned to the green forests of his youth on a fishing and hunting trip. Every night his guide noticed that he would disappear for half an hour. One day, beset with curiosity, the guide trailed him.

He watched the lawyer build a fire in a clearing and balance two logs across stones, then seat himself on one log and stare into the fire.

The guide started to walk towards the fire, when the lawyer held up restraining hands. Without a word he arranged another log and invited the guide to join him in his vigil. For half an hour the two remained together in **complete silence**. After they had returned to camp the lawyer explained the mystery.

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"Go ye, into the world, preach the gospel to every creature, acting in the authority which I have given you, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."—(D. & C. 68:8)

"TIME" — Continued

"When I was a child my Indian mother taught me to go off **by myself** at the end of each day and make a place for the visit of the Great Spirit. I was to think back over my actions and thoughts of the day. If there was anything of which I was ashamed, I must tell the Great Spirit I was sorry and ask for strength to avoid the same mistake again. Then I would sleep better that night. I had forgotten all about it, but here, in the forest where I had played as a boy, I have found my lost faith. I have not known such peace since I was a child. And from now on I shall somehow manage to visit the Great Spirit every day."

Take time to **observe** beauty around you and look for the good in others . . . it is the road to happiness. If youtake time to absorb the warmth of things beautiful and radiate warmth by being friendly and thinking and speaking kindly to others, you will find that there is magic in an attitude like that, because not only will it bring joy to those with whom you associate but in abundance also to yourself.

Yes, there is "magic in a word of PRAISE." The most horrible dream a famous comedian ever had was the night when he dreamt that he was performing for a great audience but nobody smiled, nobody applauded. The general thought little of it when he was complimented on his great victories, but when a lady mentioned the twinkle in his eye his gratitude was boundless. The successful merchant was often complimented on his business acumen, but this meant little to him compared to the night when, unexperienced as he was, he made a somewhat halting speech and someone afterwards congratulated him on the beautiful thoughts he had expressed.

Take time to offer a word of praise or encouragement, especially to children. They thrive on it. The little girl had been scolded often for misbehaviour, but on a certain day she was very good. After her mother had tucked her away for the night and turned away, she heard little sobs coming from her bed. "What is wrong now, my darling?" she asked. "Oh, mother, haven't I been a good little girl today?" Take time to **love** and be **loved** . . . it is the privilege of the gods. To what exalted heights can this not go in the intimate family circle! . . . a man with his wife and children!

"When twilight falls and silence calls
To evening prayer,
Fair forms appear and hover near
About my chair;
Soft hands entwine themselves in mine,
Lips touch my face,
Then miles are not and time's forgot
As souls embrace."

Take time to LAUGH—it is the music of the soul. Take time to PLAY with children—it is the joy of joys. Take time to be COURTEOUS and CONSIDERATE—it is the mark of a gentleman.

TAKE TIME! . . . TAKE TIME! Yes! TAKE TIME!

Now, be sure to do it on time. Be sure to start on time and to **be on time**! Enjoy your time! Not like the little boy who was dragged to church by his parents; the speakers were long-winded and he got fidgety. At last he leaned over and said to his mother: "Are you sure this is the only way to get to heaven?"

Willem H. Maritz.

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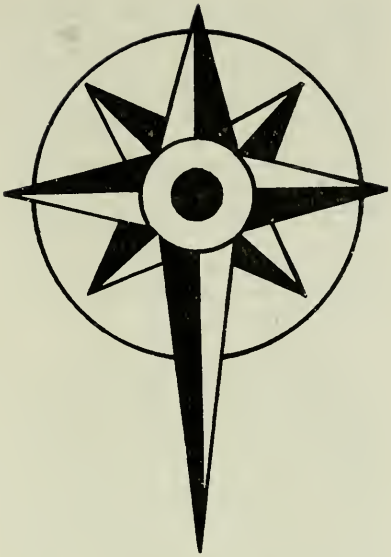
"Behold, the field is white already to harvest; therefore, whose desireth to reap let him thrust in his sickle with his might, and reap while the day lasts, that he may treasure up for his soul everlasting salvation in the Kingdom of God."

(D. & C. 6:3)

THE BRANCHES REPORT



BELLVILLE BRANCH REPORT

Marein Goosen

The Halse family visited us on their way home to Salt Lake City. and Brother and Sister Halse were the speakers on Sunday evening the 31st of July. It was wonderful to be able to associate with these lovely people once more. The opening social of the Relief Society took the form of a baby shower for one of our expecting mothers in the branch. President Alldredge and President Wilson vitisted our branch in connection with the acquisition of a site for a new chapel. On Sunday the 21st of August we held our branch conference, the theme was: "Work and Service". We had an inspiring service and very good speakers. Sister Johanna Fourie from Hermanus and the Kosciuch family from Paarl. We had two babies blessed this month. They were: Stephen Bibb, who was blessed by Eric Jakins. On the same day little Francis Meintjies was blessed by David Bell. We are looking forward to a year of activity in Relief Society now that it has started again.

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BLOEMFONTEIN BRANCH REPORT

by Mona Spears

The Relief Society remains fruitful and active; though we are only 7 at the moment. The Relief Society is now the proud owner of enough crockery, cutlery, glassware and table linen to be able to cater to large weddings etc. Five sisters contributed to our cake sale and we made £15.0.0 last month. We also had a dinner and farewell party for President and Sister Fisher. Our hearts were heavy to say goodbye to our lovely mission family. We hope they have a pleasent journey home. Right now we are feverishly waiting to hear when our chapel will be dedicated. It is hoped that all visitors will communicate well in advance so that arrangements can be made for them. It is going to be a wonderful day for us here in Bloemfontein! We want to welcome into our branch Brother and Sister de Wet who were just baptised. We know they are going to be enthusiastic workers here in the branch. We are very happy here and hope for every success to the other branches during the rest of our NEW ERA YEAR.

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BULAWAYO BRANCH REPORT

by Iris Fourie

Riots! But we're able to report all is well in Bulawayo, thanks to our officials who had the matter well under control. Very little damage is reported in the European business and residental area.

The Mutual "Pioneer Party"

proved to be one of the best for many years. It was a fine effort on the part of Trevor Fourie, we also want to thank the Relief Society sisters for their generous donation, which has helped to swell the funds. A very interesting "Fire Side" was held on the 31st of July. The subject was "Danger—Curves Ahead." Everyone took part and had a good time. Our Relief Society is now in full swing as well, so we look forward to the rest of the year and its promise of activity with great expectations, and enthusiasm.

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DURBAN BRANCH REPORT

by Joyce Wahlburn

"Pioneer Party!" The M.I.A. held their annual celebration here and it was a huge success. It was very well attended and those who dressed for the occasion were very much appreciated by the rest of those present. 36 of the branch members went to Pietermaritzburg Branch to attend their "Game Evening" and Braaivleis. Everything was beautifully organized and everyone felt it was worth the effort and trip. Let's have more of these activities! The Relief Society has reopened with a social, at which all the sisters gaily forgot their waistlines and enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Brother and Sister Peek, Brother Ronald Du Preeze were baptised into the Church on the 7th August. We extend a welcome to these lovely people on behalf of the branch.

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EAST LONDON BRANCH REPORT

by Rita Corrigan

A faithful gathering of Saints witnessed the baptism of two converts, into the Church on the banks of the Nahoon River. We rejoice with these good souls in their rebirth into the Kingdom of God and pray that they will remain ever faithful and active in the Church of Jesus Christ. Their names are: Brother and Sister Dewing. Congratulations! Young Joe Semmet was ordained a Deacon this month as well and we pray that he will grow in His Heavenly Fathers Kingdom here on earth. In July we bid farewell to Elder Mac Park and welcomed Elder Parkinson. After having 3 South Africans in a row it sounds strange to hear the familar American accent once more. The Primary pupils and all those who gave so freely of their pennies, tickeys and sixpences to the toy appeal by Sister Fourie; may be happy in the thought that their small contribution will help to make some little crippled child in far away America, a happy recipient of a South African toy.

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EAST RAND BRANCH REPORT

by Jean McGill

The M.I.A. held a terrific "Pioneer Party" at the home of Brother and Sister Alexander. The young people enjoyed square dancing and other games while the Sisters prepared a "Pioneer Supper". On the 7th of August the Genealogical Society conducted the evening service. Excellent talks were given, and the East Rand Quartette sang a touching musical number. We are pleased to have the Olivier family as members of our branch and Brothers Dick Noble and Norman Lees. We have the Taggarts from Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. here and we want to welcome them into the branch as well.

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KRUGERSDORP BRANCH

by Elaine Strydom

In the Lewisham Hall, the branch held its annual "Pioneer Party" and it was a huge success, in addition to the party we had a scrumptious Curry and Rice meal. After the Genealogical Society's programme at Sacrament Service this month we are enthusiastic over the new course. We have a good number of people enrolled at present and hope for more soon. The branch members are aware of its importance and have a desire to complete as much as humanly possible. We want to congratulate two of our members who have been ordained to the Priesthood. They are Brother van Brandwyk and Brother C. Strydom. It is truly a blessing to see the Priesthood in the branch being strengthened and

to have the blessing in the home. We held branch conference on the 14th of August and the Ramah Choir rendered "Beautiful Zion for Me" and closed the conference with: "Ye Simple Souls Who Stray". We thank them for their harmony in song which brought us so much closer to our Father in Heaven. The branch is going forward here with the unity under the leadership of officers sustained with enthusiasm at this conference.

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LUANSHYA BRANCH REPORT
Hilda Nickisson

Our members were very blessed when we were able to open our homes to the Belgian refugees, who poured across our borders a short time ago. We are happy to be able to assist such unfortunate people in their hour of need. Brother D. Charsley is at present ill with bronchitis and we all wish him a speedy recovery. Sister Aletta Terblanche has just returned to the branch from her visit to the Union. Welcome Home.

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MOWBRAY BRANCH REPORT
by Beatrice E. Smith

The M.I.A. was responsible for a lovely programme in connection with the "Pioneer Party", July 26th. There was a musical program, followed by family games; after this there was a braaivleis; after this there was dancing for those who wanted too. The Halse family left for America on August 5th, and a large group of people were on hand to say farewell. The Primary is back into the swing of things and the little ones are thrilled with their activities and have a keen interest in the program.

The Church is attracting more members than ever! There has not been one week without a baptismal service during the month. We just had an entire family baptised a short time ago, and we want to welcome into the Church all the other fine members who have come into the Kingdom of God this month. The Temple fund is growing larger all the time. Over £19.0.0 was raised at a cake sale, and the committee wish to thank all those who have taken part. There are many other plans afoot so we are sure to attain our target by the end of the year. We wish to welcome back to the branch Elder Prins and Elder Hubert who are two of our local missionaries. Elder Keith Hurbert has just completed his mission in Bloemfontein, and is coming home with his parents.

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PIETERMARITZBURG BRANCH BRANCH REPORT
by Joan Ball

This has been a beehive month for branch activities! We have received the good news we are to have a chapel, and even though it will mean hard work we are looking forward to the big drive. We had a fund raising drive and it was most enjoyable. There was a braaivleis and square dancing, and lots of fun! We had the opportunity of mixing with the Brothers and Sisters from Durban as well because they came up to support our drive. Thanks a lot dear Brothers and Sisters for your companionship. We wish to say farewell to Elder Wilson who was whisked away from us quickly, may the Lord's blessings be with him wherever he goes.

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PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH REPORT
by Mage McHugh

It was fun seeing the members dressed up in Pioneer costumes and take part in the Pioneer social. We especially enjoyed Elder Peterson's rendering of "A Mormon Boy" and later in the evening he sang several songs which everyone throughly enjoyed. Soup, meat and Potato cakes were served.

We were happy to meet President Alldredge for a few minutes as he met with the Branch Presidency. We hope we will see him and Sister Alldredge quite soon. We regret to announce the passing of Brother Gamble. He has been ill for quite some time. We send our deepest sympathy to Sister Gamble, and their family.

PRETORIA BRANCH REPORT
by Martha Lion-Cachet

Our M.I.A. held a cake sale on the 21st of July, which turned out to be a huge success. The Sisters contributed to its success with their time, talent and contributions and in general were very generous. Our branch conference theme was: "Obedience". The District Presidency was in attendance and gave some of the inspiring talks that were the high lights of our conference. Sister J. M. A. J. Terblance, died on the 4th August, and we wish to extend to the family our condolences. We have had two new members come into our branch this month and we want to welcome them. They are: Sister N. C. Jacobs and Brother and Sister du Preez. We had two other cake sales and the proceeds went to the building fund and Relief Society. They were both a great success and the funds of both these organizations are swelled greatly. A fire side was held on the 23rd of August and its theme was: "Dangerous Curves Ahead". Everyone enjoyed hemselves and it was a lovely evening.

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PRIMROSE BRANCH REPORT
by Minnie Rautenbach

The Genealogical Society conducted the service on the 6th of August. They had many inspiring talks for us and we all received a new desire to spend more time on our Genealogy in future. We had a social Evening at M.I.A. the 9th of August. Brother Norbury conducted a short class then the remainder of the time was spent discussing music appreciation. We want to wish Elder Barker Bon Voyage! Our Relief Society Sisters had a lesson on painting and everyone did very well indeed, we all look forward to more of these lovely lessons.

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RAMAH BRANCH REPORTS
by Miriam Nicholls

The Aaronic Priesthood held a party on the 16th of July and everyone had a lovely time, it was fun to eat all you wanted although some of the Sisters didn't do it because of the old waistline problem! The M.I.A. held its braaivleis this month and it was a thrilling occasion for everyone who attended. There were games, and the evening finished off with square dancing. **This has been a wonderful month here at Ramah we have witnessed so many baptisms, and seen so many lovely people enter the waters of baptism, it is gratifying to see Zion on the March.** We want to welcome into the branch all those who have just been baptised. And we wish them much joy in the Gospel. The Sunday School held a cake sale and earned more than £8.0.0. from it. The Kurgersdorp Branch held a film show here in our recreation hall. There was no charge but they asked everyone who attended to buy a brick and help toward the building of the Krugersdorp Chapel. We were also lucky to have President Maybee, from Bountiful, Utah visit us and give us words of encouragement on living the gospel no matter where we are. He told us how lucky we are to have the true gospel and to be living it. Let us never become apathetic towards it, but strive to live it the fullest. We extend the hand of friendship to all the branches of the Church in South Africa.

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SALISBURY BRANCH REPORT
by Jean Schonnberg

The Relief Society held a cake sale and raised £11.0.0 they were going to use the money to buy new curtains for our meeting hall, but instead the money went to buy a food parcel to help the Belgian Congo refugees who were seeking refuge in the Federation. We had a film evening at M.I.A. and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely the films were excellent. **Sunday dawned as a lovely day for our branch as we saw baptised into the Church 5 new members. We welcome them all into the Church with great rejoicing, and fellowship of the gospel. And we pray that our Heavenly Father will enlighten their minds to His truth.** The Relief Society commenced once more and what a splendid meeting the sisters en-

joyed. May all of the sisters find joy in their work, we are looking forward to our theology lessons and other activities for the coming year. The membeds of the Salisbury Branch extend to President and Sister Alldredge our affectionate greetings.

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WELKOM BRANCH REPORT
by Joyce Parkin

The member here were amazed at the hidden talent which has been lying dormant in the branch. Our Pioneer Party brought to light budding actors and actresses. We hope this will be the first of many future parties. The M.I.A. also had a fund raising dinner in aid of the building fund. Never before was so much eaten, by so many at so little cost, the building fund wants to thank the Superintendent and her willing helpers. We are very sorry to say goodbye to Brother and Sister Holthausen and their family who have left for the East Rand. We wish them our Heavenly Fathers choicest blessings for all they have done here in the branch. East Rand please note. Our loss is your gain! We join the mission in welcoming President and Sister Alldredge into the South African Mission.

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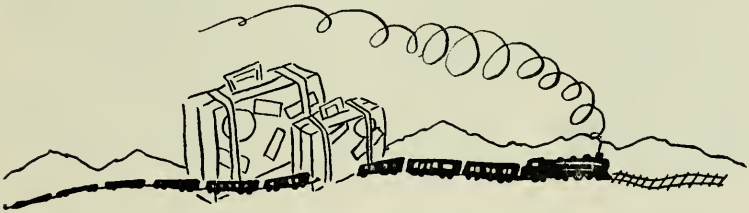

MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES

APPOINTMENTS

James Bromley—Appointed S. E. of West Rand District Oct. 1, 1960.

Ronald Bacher—Appointed S. E. of Pretoria 14th Sept., 1960.

Elder Haddock—Appointed S. E. of Welkom District 14 Sept., 1960.

Elder Sidney Newton—Appointed S.E. of Natal Dist. 14th Sept., 1960.

Elder Richard Peterson—Appointed S. E. of Cape Dist. 1 Oct., 1960.

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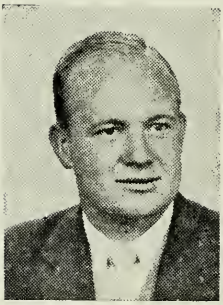
"We will go and do the thing which the Lord hath commanded, for we know that the Lord giveth no commandments unto the children of men, save he shall prepare a way for them to accomplish the thing which He commandeth them."

(1Nephi 3:7)

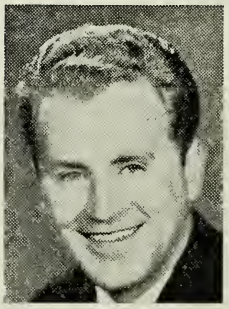
MISSIONARY TRANSFERS

TRANSFERS	From:	To:
Bernard Packard	Umtali, S. Rhodesia.	Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia
Gary Tate	Umtali, S. Rhodesia.	Salisbury, S. Rhodesia
Kendell M. Lambert	Pretoria, Tvl.	Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia
Stanley Sessions	Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia	Brakpan, Tvl.
Arlen Smith	Vereeniging, Tvl.	Boksburg, Tvl.
James Bromley	Cape Town	Johannesburg, Tvl.
Douglas Luke	Pretoria, Tvl.	Germiston, Tvl.
James D. Clark	Germiston, Tvl.	Johannesburg, Tvl.
Glen Jay Waltman	Salisbury, S. Rhodesia	Johannesburg, Tvl.
Forrest Umberger	Florida, Tvl.	Welkom, O.F.S.
Glen Scott	Glen Harmony, O.F.S.	Carletonville, Tvl.
Robert Barrus	Johannesburg, Tvl.	Randfontein, Tvl.
Michael Howard	Randfontein, Tvl.	Discovery, Tvl.
Ronald Bacher	Johannesburg, Tvl.	Pretoria, Tvl.
James Cleon Willden	Brakpan, Tvl.	Pretoria, Tvl.
Brent Reynolds	Johannesburg, Tvl.	Glen Harmony, O.F.S.
Duane Child	Johannesburg, Tvl.	East London, C.P.
Sidney Newton	East London	Durban, Natal.
Sidney Smith	Pietermaritzburg, Natal	Queenstown, Natal
Kent D. Smith	Durban, Natal	Pietermaritzburg, Natal
Thomas H. Blackburn	Johannesburg, Tvl.	Port Elizabeth, C.P.
Charles Armstrong	Boksburg, Tvl.	Cape Town, C.P.
Vince Garcia	Carletonville, Tvl.	Cape Town, C.P.

LEFT FOR HOME



KEITH WILLIAM HUBERT
From Cape Town. Released Sept., 1906. Laboured in Port Elizabeth Durban, Gwelo, Krugersdorp, and Bloemfontein. Also served as Travelling Elder.



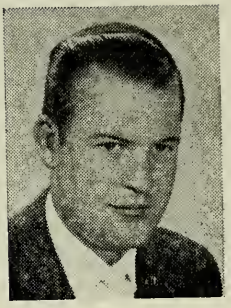
JAMES PRINT
From Cape Town. Released Sept., 1960. Laboured in Krugersdorp, Johannesburg, Welkom, Bloemfontein, Germiston, and Johannesburg

ISABEL JESSIE McCALLUM
From Johannesburg, Transvaal. Released 25 August 1960. Laboured in Port Elizabeth, Pretoria and Durban.

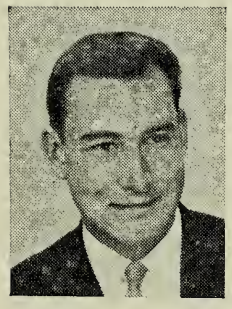
LEFT FOR HOME

STEVE E. HOLTHOM
Idaho Falls, Idaho, Relased 14th September, 1960. Laboured in Pretoria, Durhan, West Rand, Krugersdorp, Travelling Elder.

DENNIS TISON RAMPTON
From Layton, Utah, Released 14th Sept., 1960. Lahoured in Durhan, Pietermaritzburg, Johanneshurg, Benoni, Gwelo, Port Elizabeth.



RUEL MELBOURNE BARKER
Elba, Idaho, Released 14th September, 1960. Laboured in Germiston, Welkom, Pretoria, as S. E. Johannesburg, Brakpan, Johanneshurg. Travelling E.



EDWARD KENT HUTCHINGS
From Deer Lodge, Montana. Released 14th Septemher, 1960, lahoured in Brakpan, Bulawayo, Johanneshurg, Durban, as S. E.

GERALD STODDARD JORDAN
From Bountiful, Utah, Released 14th Sept., 1960, laboured in Kimherley, N'dola, Johanneshurg, Springs, Welkom, as S. E.

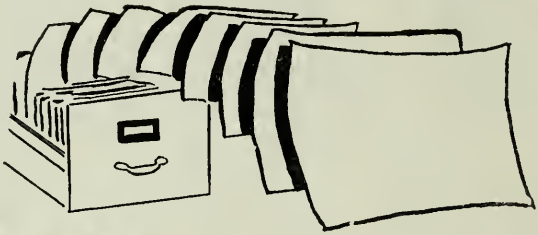
THOMAS L. YOUD
From Spanish Fork, Utah, Relased 14th Septemher, 1960, laboured in Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Kimherley, Salisbury, Pretoria, as S. E.

I'VE FOUND MY MOSES — Continued

The Moses I refer to now is Gods Holy Prophet of the Latter-day's; Joseph Smith. Like Moses in the Old Testiment he has lead me out of the wilderness of sin and darkness into the light and life of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Since I knew the Book of Mormon was true and I couldn't deny it, there was only one course open for me, the same as any other honest in heart person who reads the Book of Mormon. That was to joint the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

I took on this faith on the 24th of July 1960 and what a happy day that was! I have felt joy I have never known before and can truthfully say I have never looked back! I pray that during the rest of my days of probation here on earth that I may be just as happy. I do need the help of my Father in Heaven though for as yet I am only a crawling infant in the Gospel, and until such time as I can walk up right, I shall need the help of my brothers and sisters in the gospel. But it is with humility than I can truthfully say I am PROUD to be a "MORMON" and to be a brother to so many wonderful people who with me are members of the Kingdom of God here on earth. I give you this as my testimony in the name of Jesus Christ.

John Moolman.



FROM OUR FILES

BLESSINGS THIS MONTH

SCOTT, Serene, Krugersdorp.

SCOTT, Vanessa, Krugersdorp.

OSMAN, Audery Holly, Mowbray.

MACMILLAN, Evelyn Vera, Springs.

BRAYTENBACK, Michael Johannes, Durban.

JUBBER, William Alexander, Salisbury.

BARRIS, John Francois, Mowbray.

BARRIS, Elizabeth Anne, Mowbray.

BARRIS, Arthur Stanley Michael, Mowbray.

BARRIS, William John, Mowbray.

MARRIAGES THIS MONTH

McGRANE, Maureen, Mowbray, to Cedric Charles Suttle.

BROWN, Christopher, Mowbray, to Constance Servis du Toit.

FUTTER, Noel, Durban, to Joan Denise Flack.

ORDINATIONS THIS MONTH

SPEAR, Brian Henry, Bloemfontein, Teacher.

DAUBNEY, Peter Graham, Bloemfontein, Priest.

SPEAR, John Henry, Bloemfontein, Priest.

VAN ROOYEN, Ralph Henry, out of branch, Priest.

TA'M, Olev, Pretoria, Deacon.

DEATHS THIS MONTH

BRAYTENBACK, Michael Johannes, Durban, 5th June, 1960.

NEW MISSIONARIES THIS MONTH

SISTER EVA MINNIE HOBBS, Calgary, Alberta Canada.

ELDER CLINTON DALE PERKINS, Las Vegas, Nevada.

ELDER AMOS DALE ORR, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

ELDER KEITH STEWART JENSON, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

OUT OF BRANCH BAPTISMS

JOUBERT, Francois Jacobus
JOUBERT, Magdalena Jozina
JOUBERT, Andries Johannes
JOUBERT, Francois Jacobus
JOUBERT, Jan Frederick
JOUBERT, Anna Elizabeth
NELL, Cecilia Petronella
NELL, Louis Andries Francois (Jr.)
NELL, Anthony Johannes
NELL, Heila Magdalena
NELL, Louis Andries Francois
BARRIS, John Henry
BARRIS, Gloria Laura.
BARRIS, Lesley Ann
VAN ROOYEN, Delene

RAMAH BRANCH BAPTISMS

MARAIS, Dorthea Johanna Jacoba
BEARD, Nelson
BEARD, Margaret Edna
GORMAN, Sidney George Henry
GORMAN, Janetta Maria
RODDA, Thomas Basil Roy
RODDA, Engela Getruida
RODDA, Celeste Elizabeth Katrine
RODDA, Mary-Ann Josephine
BRISTOW, Patrick Rowland Douglas
BRISTOW, Anne Margaret
BRISTOW, Patrick Arthur Charles
OOSTHUIZEN, Patricia Charalene
WILSON, Lesley Anne
LIEBENBERG, Ruth Marguerita
LIEBENBERG, Roelof
DONLY, Susanne Marjorie
PICKERING, Shirley
PICKERING, Agnes
PICKERING, William
MATTHEWS, Gertrude Johanna
MATTHEWS, Bertha Caroline
MATTHEWS, Ronald Eustace
MATTHEWS, Desre Sandra

SALISBURY BRANCH BAPTISMS

CORBETT, Alexander Benjamin
CORBETT, Sandra
CORBETT, Leah
CORBETT, Colin Dawes
THOMPSON, Patricia Mary

MOWBRAY BRANCH BAPTISMS

TERBLANCHE, Cora Anne
OSBORNE, Richard
DE PASS, Harry Stretque
OLIVIER, Anna Elizabeth
BARRIS, William Arthur
BARRIS, Elaine Joan
BARRIS, Anne Marie Elizabeth
EVELEIGH, Maureen Thelma
EDWARDS, Donovan Percival
BOTHA, Betty
HEATH, Richard Peter
HEATH, Stephen Paul

WELKOM BRANCH BAPTISMS

BORNMAN, Christiaan Herodemus

BAPTISMS

OLIVIER, Elizabetha Sussanna
STORROR, Anthony Arthur

BELLVILLE BRANCH BAPTISMS

MEINTJIES, Jacobus Johannes
MEINTJIES, Jeanette (De Jager)

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BEHOLD THE FIELD IS WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST CONT.

A great lesson can be learned from the NEW ERA spirit that Carletonville has. It should be a guide to the other branches of the mission, because this isn't an isolated incident; **it's happening everywhere—the members are behind the NEW ERA program.**

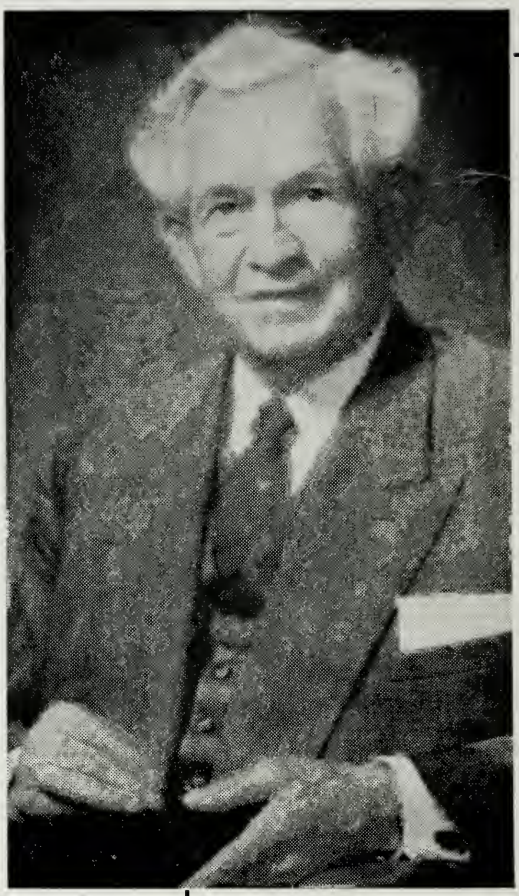
One reason for the NEW ERA success that the missionaries had were the referrals the missionaries received from the members. From one family they received enough referrals to convert **two more complete families.**

Now, every adult member of this Church should be able to sit down and make up a list of similar referrals, of people YOU KNOW, who have expressed an interest in the Church. Don't be afraid to ask your friends and relatives to let the elders call on them. Most of them would be happy to welcome them into their homes and listen to the Gospel's message.

Give these people a chance to hear the gospel; wouldn't you like to share the gospel and its blessings with those you know and love? Of course you would, so start right now on your list of referrals; then hand them in to the missionaries. There is no better feeling in all the world, than to know you have been instrumental in bringing someone into the Kingdom of God.

Once more the field is white already to harvest. Are you helping in the harvest?

FTT.



President David O. McKay observed his 87th birthday on September 8, 1961. The event was marked by a small gathering of members of the family and close friends and associates of the President. A great amount of messages of good will and expressions of love and respect were received by the President. These came from the friends that President McKay has made in his trips around the world, especially in the last decade.

In his early teens President McKay memorized this passage of scripture found in Micah, which reads: "And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God . . ."

This message lodged in the heart of the youthful, future prophet, and helped to mold him into the beloved leader and latter-day Prophet that to-day stands at the head of this Church.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PRESIDENT